

> Stinger Missile System Block I Upgrade

DESCRIPTION

Stinger missile platforms provide defense against low-altitude fixed- and rotary-wing aircraft. The Stinger is a man-portable, heat-seeking missile capable of shoulder or vehicle launch. It employs a unique image scanning technique that allows it to discriminate among targets, flares, and background clutter. The Stinger missile also possesses the target adaptive guidance technique that biases



missile orientation toward vulnerable portions of the aircraft and assures maximum lethality. Its superior lethality results from its hit-to-kill accuracy, high warhead lethality, and the impact force generated by missile speeds of up to Mach 2.0. The fire-and-forget technology allows gunners and platforms to take cover or engage new targets immediately

after firing. The Stinger missile is issued as a certified round of ammunition, so it requires no field maintenance or associated logistical costs. The upgrade consists of a new generation Reprogrammable Micro Processor (RMP), software enhancement, and a roll frequency sensor.

OPERATIONAL IMPACT

The capabilities of the existing stockpile of RMPs need to be enhanced through technology insertion to meet new, emerging threats. The upgrade to the Block I configuration will eliminate several shortcomings of the existing RMP missile and improve Stinger capabilities against low-aspect angle targets, targets employing reactive infrared counter-measures, and targets engaged at night or in clutter. This upgrade has increased the acquisition range of the missile beyond 10 kilometers and increased its capabilities against UAVs and low radar cross-section targets.

PROGRAM STATUS

Stinger Missile Block I upgrades are ongoing.

PROCUREMENT PROFILE:	FY03	FY04
Quantity:	200	210

DEVELOPER/MANUFACTURER

AFCC: Raytheon Missile Systems Corporation
HMMWV: AM General